

AN
HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION
OF
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

CONTAINING

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| <p>1. The History of the Old Cathedral from it's first Foundation, in which many curious Particulars concerning it's ancient Customs, Privileges, and Solemnities, are recited.</p> <p>2. An Account of the Manner of proceeding in taking down the vast Ruins of the Old Cathedral, with the Discoveries and Observations made upon the Spot by Sir CHRISTOPHER WREN.</p> | <p>3. A full Description of the founding, building, ornamenting, and finishing the present Structure, with Observations on it's Beauties and Defects.</p> <p>4. A full View of every Thing curious in it shewn to Strangers.</p> <p>5. A Comparison of it's Dimensions with those of the Old Church: And of the Dimensions of both with those of St. Peter's at Rome.</p> |
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TO WHICH ARE ADDED

A DESCRIPTION of the MONUMENT,
Some CONJECTURES concerning
LONDON-STONE and other *Roman* RELICS,
And a REVIEW of the
Ancient WALL and GATES about the CITY.

L O N D O N:

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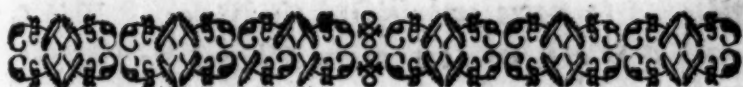
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T H E

P R E F A C E.

 *S* St. Paul's Cathedral was intended to be an Honour to the Nation, and an Ornament to the City of London, an Attempt to preserve the Memory of it's Erection, may hope to be favourably received. Nor can it be thought of less Importance, to have a Prospect set before us of the Vicissitude of all earthly Monuments of Grandeur, in the Rise, Increase, flourishing State, gradual Decay, and final Dissolution of the old Structure, whose ruinous Condition, after more than a thousand Years Existence, made Way for the present most beautiful Fabric to succeed.

In the Prosecution of this Design, we must acknowledge ourselves chiefly indebted to the Labours of two very eminent Men, namely, Sir William Dugdale, and Sir Christopher Wren; the former took Pains, as himself has declared, to give a perfect Representation of the OLD CATHEDRAL, that the Remembrance of so glorious a Structure might not wholly be buried in Oblivion; and the latter has left behind him some Materials, not elsewhere to be met with, of the Ornaments and other Decorations with which he

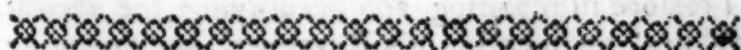
intended to have embellished the NEW. If in so small a Work as this many Things be omitted, with which the Reader would gladly be acquainted, we must refer him to Dugdale's History of St. Paul's, and to Wren's Parentalia.

As to the other Parts of this little Book, respecting the MONUMENT, LONDON-STONE, and other ANTIQUE REMAINS therein treated of, nothing in particular need to be premised. What is said of the MONUMENT, indeed is founded upon incontestable Facts; but as to LONDON-STONE, the WALL and GATES of LONDON, and other Matters grounded upon Conjecture, though the Reader will here find as much Satisfaction as in all the other Books that mention them, yet I question if what is advanced will command his Belief. Something will occur to his own Reason that will stagger his Faith, and to the free Exercise of that Reason I commend him.





AN
HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION
OF
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL,
AND ITS
ORNAMENTS.



Of the old CATHEDRAL of St. PAUL.

IN our History of *Westminster-Abbey*, we have already observed, that, till the Beginning of the 6th Century the *Pagan* Worship generally prevailed in *Britain*; and it is beyond all Doubt that the Inhabitants of *London* continued to pay divine Honours to *Diana*, in a Temple dedicated to the Service of that Goddess, till the Reign of *Ethelbert*, King of *Kent*.

This Prince being converted to Christianity by the Preaching of *Augustine*, caused the *Pagan* Temples within his Jurisdiction to be consecrated to a purer Worship, established the Order of Bishops, and constituted *Augustine* their Metropolitan, who, about the Year 604, being solicited thereto by *Sebert* King

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King of *Essex*, advanced *Mellitus* to the Bishopric of *London*, and converted the Temple of *Diana* into a Cathedral, by destroying the Idols, building an Altar, furnishing it with Relics, and sprinkling it with Holy Water.

That this was the Origin of the old Structure of *St. Paul's*, appears from unquestionable Authorities; but in the then unsettled State of *Christianity*, the Kingdom of *Essex*, upon the Death of *Sebert*, relapsing into *Paganism*, this newly consecrated Cathedral was again defiled, it's Bishop banished, the Idols restored, and that Adoration offered to false Gods which was only due to the Supreme Being: It did not, however, remain long in this depraved State; the *Christian* Religion every-where prevailed, and bore down all Opposition; insomuch, that in 675 we find *Erkinwald*, the fourth Bishop of *London*, from *Mellitus*, lavishing an immense Treasure in repairing and beautifying the ancient Edifice, augmenting it's Revenues, and procuring such Privileges from the Pope and the *Saxon* Princes then reigning, for it's future Security, as should effectually disappoint the Attempts of it's Enemies. As the Labours of this devout Bishop were crowned with Success, so in the Infancy of *Christianity* this Kind of Piety was never suffered to pass unrewarded; his Soul was exalted to Heaven, and his Body translated to a glorious Shrine above the high Altar in the East Part of this Church, and remained there the Admiration of succeeding Ages, till the fatal Destruction of the whole Fabric extinguished it's Lustre.

During the *Saxon* Heptarchy it seems to have flourished exceedingly. *Kenard*, King of *Mercia*, declared it as free in all it's Rights, as he himself desired to be at the Day of Judgment; *Athelstan* endowed it with fifteen Lordships; *Edgar* with two,
and

and it's ORNAMENTS.

and *Elgelfede*, his Wife, with two more ; all which were confirmed by the Charters of *Ethelred* and *Canutus*, which threaten the Violaters with solemn Curses.

Edward the Confessor was the next Benefactor to this Church ; but the *Norman* Invasion, which soon succeeded, for a while eclipsed it's Glory. Some of it's Revenues were at first seized upon by the Conqueror, who, in the Fury of War, treated Clergy and Laity with equal Rigour : But, when the Thoughts of establishing himself on the Throne had taken Possession of his Mind, and Rapine and Plunder had given Way to more serious Considerations, that wise Prince began the Reformation of Abuses, by causing full Restitution to be made to the Church, and by confirming all it's Rights, Privileges, and Immunities, in the amplest Manner, with a pious Benediction upon those who should augment it's Possessions, and solemn Imprecations against such as should violate any of the Charters made in it's Favour.

In this Reign, however, a dreadful Fire consumed the ancient Fabric of which we have been speaking, and gave Rise to a more magnificent Building than had ever been applied to the Purposes of Devotion in any Part of *England* before. This great Work was undertaken by *Maurice*, then Bishop of *London*, who obtained a Grant of such Materials for carrying it into Execution as should be found useful, out of the Ruins of the great *Palatine-Tower*, situate near the River *Fleet*, on the very Spot where *Robert Kilwardy*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, afterwards erected that House of Dominicans so well known by the Name of *Black Friars*. But the Foundations which this good Bishop had laid were so vast, that though he lived twenty Years, and prosecuted the Work

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with uncommon Earnestness, yet he left the Completion of what he had so piously begun to succeeding Generations.

Richard de Beaumeis, on the Death of *Maurice*, being promoted to the Bishopric of *London*, was no less zealous for the Accomplishment of this great Work, than his Predecessor; and applied the whole Revenue of his See towards it's Advancement; but though he likewise laboured at it for more than twenty Years, yet the Masonry went on so slow, that what he affected was hardly to be perceived; indeed he chiefly laid out his Money in the Purchase of Houses and Lands to enlarge it's Boundaries, give full Scope to the Design, and Space for every Conveniency; leaving the Care of raising and adorning the Edifice, to Persons of superior Knowledge in Architecture, and who were equally concerned with himself in the Success of the Design. From the Silence of the Records of the Church, it should seem, that the further Prosecution of this Work, after the Death of *Beaumeis*, was entrusted in Lay-Hands; for, by whom, at what Time, or in what Manner it was finished, is no-where mentioned. Indeed *William Rufus*, who succeeded the Conqueror, is said to have exempted all Ships entering the River *Fleet*, with Stone or other Materials for the new Cathedral, from Toll and Custom; and it is not improbable, that he might take so noble a Structure under his own particular Direction.

Richard, Treasurer to *Henry II.* and afterwards made Bishop of *London*, was the next upon Record who expended a vast Sum in the Reparation of this Church, and in building Houses for the residentiary Canons, who daily attended the Celebration of divine Worship.

But

But the most considerable Change it underwent, till the total Destruction of it by the Fire of *London*, was in the Reign of *Henry III.* when *Roger*, surnamed *Niger*, the then Bishop of *London*, in a Manner rebuilt it, beginning with the Steeple, which was finished in 1221, and, proceeding with the Choir in the same Order of Architecture in which it appeared at the Fire of *London*, he perfected the whole in 1240, as appears by a new Dedication of that Cathedral in that very Year, at which were present *Edmund*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, *Niger*, and six other Prelates, assisted by *Otto*, the Pope's Legate, King *Henry III.* and a vast Concourse of People.

Having now settled, with a Degree of Certainty beyond what is common to ancient Buildings, the *Æra* of the old Structure of *St. Paul's*, we shall just touch upon what is most remarkable respecting it, and then proceed to a more particular Description of the new Cathedral.

And first of it's Dimensions. The Length of the old Church was 690 Feet; the Breadth 130; the Height of the Roof of the West Part, from the Floor, 102 Feet; of the East Part 88 Feet; the Body of the Church 150 Feet; the Height of the Tower Steeple, from the Level of the Ground, 240 Feet; of the Spire of Wood covered with Lead, above the Tower, 274 Feet; the Ball or Pummel of the Spire 6 Feet Diameter; and the Cross a-top 15 Feet; and yet, as my Author observes, the whole Height of the Tower, Spire, Pummel, and Cross, exceeded not 520 Feet. The Space of Ground whereon this fine Fabric stood, extended to three Acres and a half, one Rood and a half, and six Perches.

We shall next speak of it's Ornaments, in which it exceeded every other Church in the Kingdom :

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The Picture of St. *Paul*, richly painted, and placed in a Tabernacle of Wood on the right Hand of the high Altar, was a masterly Performance, and cost in 1398, 12*l.* 6*s.* painting. The high Altar stood between two Columns, variously adorned with precious Stones, and surrounded with Images most beautifully wrought, and covered with a Canopy of Wood curiously painted with the various Portraits of Saints and Angels; all which, in 1309, cost 22 Marks. The Shrine of St. *Erkenwald*, of whose Canonization we have already spoken, stood on the East Side of the Wall above the high Altar, and was adorned with Gold, Silver, and precious Stones; but not being thought sufficiently striking, in 1339, three Gold-Smiths of *London* were retained, by the Dean and Chapter, to work upon it a whole Year, one at the Rate of 8*s.* by the Week, the other two at 5*s.* each; at the End of which Term it's Lustre was so great, that the Princes of the Earth, the Nobles of the Land, Ambassadors and Foreigners of Rank, flocked from all Parts to visit it, and to offer their Oblations before it. Among these Oblations we find all the Rings and Jewels, of what Kind soever, of *Walter de Thorp*, and the best Sapphire Stone of *Richard de Preston*; the last was applied to the curing Infirmities of the Eyes, and Proclamation was made, by the express Will of the Donor, of it's Virtues. Against a Pillar in the Body of the Church, stood the glorious Image of the *Blessed Virgin*, before which that a Lamp might be kept continually burning, and an Anthem sung every Day, *John Burnet*, Bishop of *Bath* and *Wells*, bequeathed a handsome Estate. In the Center stood a large Cross, and towards the North Door a Crucifix, at which Offerings were made, which greatly encreased the Revenue of the Dean and

and Canons: The fine Dial belonging to the great Clock is the last Piece of Ornament I shall take Notice of, belonging to this Church, which as it was visible to all that passed by, Care was taken that it should appear with such Splendor as to excite Admiration: To this Purpose, the Image of an Angel was represented as pointing to the Hour both of the Day and Night, the gilding and adorning of which cost in those Days 6*l*.

We come in the last Place to speak of the Celebration of *Divine Service*, the *Obsequies* and *Anniversaries*, particularly belonging to this Cathedral. As to the Celebration of *Divine Service*, *Richard Clifford*, Bishop of *London*, in 1414, with the Consent of the then Dean and Chapter, ordained, that from thence forward it should be altered from the old Form, and made conformable to that of the Church of *Salisbury*, and other Cathedrals within this Kingdom; but the Performance of *Obsequies* for great Persons deceased, seems still to have been retained as a peculiar Privilege of this Cathedral; from whence great Profit arose. Sir *William Dugdale* says, "that the
" State and Order observed on these solemn Oc-
" casions, was little inferior to that used at the Fu-
" nerals of those great Personages; the Church
" and Choir being hung with Black, and Escut-
" cheons of their Arms; their Hearses set up in
" wonderful Magnificence, adorned with rich
" Banner-rolls, Pencils, &c. and environed with
" Barriers; having Chief-mourners and Affis-
" tants, accompanied with divers Bishops and Ab-
" bots in their proper Habits, so likewise with
" Ambassadors of foreign Princes, many of our
" Nobility, Knights of the Garter, Lord Mayor,
" and the several Companies of *London*," who all attended with great Devotion at those Ceremonies.

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The same Author adds a List of Emperors, Em-
presses, and Kings, who had their Obsequies per-
formed in this Cathedral: as to *Anniversaries*,
those of the *Conversion* and *Commemoration* of St.
Paul, the *Consecration of the Church*, and the Ca-
nonization of St. *Erkenwald*, were reckoned among
the highest Festivals. One very singular Grant for
the Solemnization of the first of these Anniversa-
ries, is from Sir *William le Baud*, Knt. 3 *Edward I.*
of a good fat Doe yearly on the Day of the *Con-*
version of St. *Paul*, and of a good fat Buck upon the
Day of the *Commemoration*; which Doe and Buck,
till the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, were received
with great Formality at the Steps of the Choir, by
the Canons, cloathed in their sacred Vestments,
with Garlands of Flowers on their Heads. *Camb-*
den, who was an Eye Witness of this Solemnity,
tells us, that the Horns of the Buck were carried
on a Spear, in Procession, round the Inside of the
Church, with a great Noise of Horn Blowers, &c.
and then the Buck being offered at the high Altar,
a Shilling was ordered by the Dean and Chapter
for the Entertainment of the Servants who brought
it, and the Ceremony concluded. That this Anni-
versary was of great Antiquity, as well as high Re-
nown, appears from a special Record, importing,
“ that *Henry III.* by his Precept dated at *Dover*,
“ *Jan. 17, 1244*, and directed to *William de Ha-*
“ *verhall*, then Lord Treasurer, commanding him
“ to feed 15,000 poor People in St. *Paul's Church-*
“ *Yard*, upon the *Feast of Conversion*, and to pro-
“ vide 1500 Tapers to illuminate the Church on
“ that Occasion, the Charge of which to be allow-
“ ed out of the Profits of the Bishopric of *Lon-*
“ *don*, then in the King's Hands by the Death of
“ *Roger Niger*,” of whom Mention has already
been made. The Anniversaries of the *Consecration*

and *Canonization*, were celebrated at the public Expence. Other Anniversaries there were of a private Nature, provided for by particular Grants, as that of Sir *John Poultney*, Knt. a Man famous in those Days for Wealth and Wisdom, having been four Times Lord Mayor of *London*, who assigned yearly Salaries to all who bore Office about the Church, together with an Allowance of 6*s.* 8*d.* to the Lord Mayor; 5*s.* to the Recorder; 6*s.* 8*d.* to the two Sheriffs; 3*s.* 4*d.* to the common Cryer; 6*s.* 8*d.* to the Lord Mayor's Serjeants, and 6*s.* 8*d.* to the Master of the College of *St. Lawrence Poultney*, provided they were present at the Celebration of his *Anniversary*; but if any were absent, their Share to be distributed to the Poor. Many more of these Anniversaries were kept, but these mentioned may suffice.

The *Chauntries* were still more numerous, and were founded by Men of Condition, who left certain Legacies for the Maintenance of one or two Priests to celebrate divine Service daily, for the Health of their Souls, the Souls of their dearest Friends and Relations, and of all the faithful Deceased; but these were increased to such a Degree in a short Time, and the Service so painful, and withal the Endowments so slender, that Bishop *Braybroke*, so early as the Reign of *Richard II.* caused 44 of them to be united into one Solemn Service. *Michael de Newburgh*, Bishop of *London*, in 1361, by his Testament directed, that a Chaplain should be appointed to his Successors, to celebrate divine Service for the Health of his Soul before the high Altar, and left the Rent of certain Houses for his Support; he also desired by his Will, that his Body might be buried at the Entrance into this Cathedral, without the great West Door; that twenty poor Men, cloathed in Gowns of
Black,

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Black, White, or Grey Cloth, every one holding a Waxen Torch of at least six Pounds Weight, should attend his Hearse; and that 20*l.* should be laid out on a Stone to cover his Grave, whereon should be an Inscription putting Passengers in Mind to pray. Humble as this Funeral may seem, when compared with the Pomp of such Ceremonies of that Age, yet there appears at first View a singular Kind of Vanity in it, not easily to be reconciled with the Simplicity of the Gospel; for he especially desired, “that the Ceremony of his Funeral might be performed before his Face was tainted with any Corruption, so that it might be exposed to View, with the Arms and Ensigns of his Bishopric.” But this was undoubtedly intended to correct that Extravagancy of Funeral Pomp which then generally prevailed, by setting an Example, in which Oeconomy, Charity, and Decorum, might appear to be united: His chief Expence was in cloathing the Poor; and yet, by exposing his Corps with the Ensigns of his Dignity, that Distinction was preserved which was due to his Rank, and the Charge of those waxen Images which were generally placed upon the Hearses of the Great, adorned in the most costly Manner, was saved for nobler Purposes. He built the House of *Carthusians*, commonly called the *Charter-House*, now *Sutton's Hospital*, at the Expence of 2000*l.* a vast Sum in those Days, and liberally endowed it; he also bequeathed a thousand Marks, to be put into a Chest in *St. Paul's Church*, one Key to be kept by the Dean, another by the eldest Canon Residentiary, and a third by the Warden, out of which any poor Layman might, for a sufficient Pledge, borrow 10*l.* for a Year without Interest, the Dean and principal Canons 20*l.* or 40 Marks; the Bishop 40*l.* or near 50*l.* other Noblemen

or

or Citizens 20*l*. but if at the Year's End the Pledge was not redeemed, the Preacher at *St. Paul's* Cross was to give Notice, that in 14 Days, if the Money so borrowed was not paid in, the Pledge would be sold, which was accordingly done, and the Overplus, if any, restored to the Owner, or his Executors; but in Case he had none, the Overplus was returned to the Chest for the Health of the Soul of the Deceased, or what other Use the Bishop and Dean, with the Warden of the Church, thought proper to direct.

Besides the old Cathedral of *St. Paul*, there was beneath it a Parish Church called *St. Faith's*, in which several Persons of Note were formerly interred; but of it's Antiquity no Records remain, neither is it remembered when Divine Worship was performed in it, other than by Chantry Priests for the Souls of their departed Benefactors. After the Fire of *London*, therefore, when the Resolution was taken to build a new Cathedral, it was found absolutely necessary totally to demolish and to raze to the Ground all the Relics of the old Building, *St. Faith's* not excepted; and in the same Place, but upon new Foundations, to erect the New. From this Period the Parish of *St. Faith* became united with that of *St. Austin*; but the Inhabitants, as I am informed, are now contesting their Right of Burial in the old Spot, to which Privilege their Predecessors had an undoubted Claim.

The old Chapter-House, situate on the South of *St. Paul's*, was likewise a Building of great Note; as was the old Cross, which stood in the Middle of the Church-Yard on the North Side, where it was anciently the Custom to preach to the People. Facing this Cross stood the Charnel, in which the Bones of the Dead were decently piled together, a thousand Loads whereof were removed
to

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to *Finsbury-Fields*, in the Reign of *Edward VI.* and there laid in a moorish Place, with so much Earth to cover them as raised the Ground for three Windmills to stand upon. The Charnel itself, together with a Chapel called *Sherington's Chapel*, the *Library*, and other *Chapels* adjoining, were at the same Time pulled down, and their Materials, by Order of *Edward*, Duke of *Somerset*, converted to the Building of *Somerset-House*, in the *Strand*. About this Time likewise was demolished that ancient Chapel founded by *Gilbert Becket*, Portreeve of *London*, in the Reign of *King Stephen*, and situate in a Place at that Time known by the Name of *Pardon-church-haugh*, to the East of the Bishop's Palace, in which Chapel were interred sundry Persons, whose Monuments, as *Stow* observes, for curious Workmanship, surpassed those in the Cathedral itself; and on the Walls of it was richly pourtrayed the *Dance of Death*, in Imitation of a Painting in the Cloyster of *St. Innocent's Church* at *Paris*, with *English Verses* translated out of the *French* by *John Lydgate*, a famous old Poet, by Way of Explanation.—It remains only to speak of one Building more belonging to this ancient Cathedral, and that was the *Clocher*, or *Bell-Tower*, which stood at the East End of the Church-Yard, close to the Schoolmaster's House, in which were four great Bells, called *Jesus Bells*, because they actually belonged to *Jesus Chapel* in *St. Faith's Church*: but these, together with the fine Image of *St. Paul* on the Top of the Spire, being won by *Sir Miles Partridge*, Knt. of *Henry VIII.* at one Cast of the Dice, were by that Gentleman taken down and sold. It is remarked by *Dugdale*, by Way of Judgment for this Sacrilege, that *Sir Miles*, in the succeeding Reign, suffered Death on *Tower-Hill*, for Matters relating to the Duke of *Somerset*.

Having

Having now taken a transient Survey of this magnificent Structure in it's flourishing State, with all it's Appendages, we shall in like Manner view it's Decline, and trace it to it's final Dissolution. The first remarkable Misfortune that befel it was in 1444, when the Timber-work of the Steeple was set on Fire by Lightning, and did such Damage, that till 1462 it was not sufficiently repaired; but then it's Beauty was encreased by a Weather-Cock made of Copper and gilt, being set upon a handsome Shaft and gilt Ball, which had a fine Effect. About 100 Years after this Accident, another of the same Kind happened to it, generally attributed to the same Cause, but much more fatal in it's Consequence, consuming not only the fine Spire, but spreading to the upper Roof of the Church and Isles, and burning all the Rasters, and what else was combustible, for the Space of four Hours: This Fire, as an old Plumber at his Death confessed, was occasioned through his Negligence only, in leaving carelessly a Pan of Coals and other Fuel in the Steeple, when he went to Dinner, which taking hold of the dry Timber in the Spire, before his Return, was grown so dangerous as not to be in his Power to quench it; and therefore to no Purpose (as he thought) to contradict the common Report of it's being again set on Fire by Lightning. This dreadful Calamity was followed by a general Contribution among the Clergy, Nobility, great Officers of State, the City of *London*, and the Queen herself, who gave a thousand Marks, in Gold, towards it's speedy Repair, with a Warrant for a thousand Loads of Timber to be cut in any of her Woods wherever it should be most convenient. The Zeal shewn on this Occasion, by Persons of all Ranks, had so good an Effect, that in five Years Time the Timber Roofs (the two largest whereof

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whereof were framed in *Yorkshire*, and brought by Sea) were entirely finished, and covered with Lead; but some Difference in Opinion arising about the Model of the Steeple, that Part of the Work was left unattempted, and indeed was never after rebuilt; for upon raising the Roofs, as has been said, the Walls, by the corroding Quality of the Coal-Smoak, were found to be so much decayed, that a general Repair of the whole Building was judged absolutely necessary; and though this was delayed from Time to Time, by Reason, no doubt, of the vast Expence attending it, yet by the indefatigable Application of *Henry Farley*, a private Gentleman, King *James I.* was at length, after more than eight Years earnest Sollicitation, prevailed upon to interpose for the Prevention of it's approaching Ruin. In order to this, his Majesty, considering of what Importance Appearances are in the Promotion of public Zeal, caused it to be rumoured abroad, that on *Sunday, March 26, 1620*, he would be present at Divine Service at *St. Paul's Cathedral*; and accordingly, when the Day came, he repaired thither on Horseback in all the Pomp of Royalty, attended by the principal Nobility and great Officers of his Court, and was met by the Lord Mayor (*Sir William Cokain*) Aldermen, and Livery, in their Formalities, who, upon his Majesty's alighting at the great West Door, joined in the Procession. When his Majesty entered the Church, he kneeled near the brazen Pillar, and devoutly prayed for Success; and then was received under a Canopy, supported by the Dean and Residentiaries, the rest of the Prebends and Dignitaries, with the whole Company of singing Men advancing before him to the Choir, which was richly adorned with Hangings for his Reception. Here he heard an Anthem, and then
proceeded

proceeded to the Cross, when the Bishop, (Dr. King) preached a Sermon suitable to the Occasion, from a Text given him by his Majesty in the *Psalms*, Chap. cii. Ver. 13, 14; which Sermon was afterwards circulated through the whole Kingdom with considerable Effect. After Divine Service was ended, his Majesty was splendidly entertained, with his whole Court, at the Bishop's Palace; where much Consultation was held concerning the Business in Hand; and at length it was agreed to issue a Commission under the Great Seal, directed to the principal Personages in the Kingdom, empowering them, or any six of them, to enquire into the true State of the Decays, and the Cause thereof, and to consider of the necessary Repairs, and the Means of raising Money for carrying them into Execution: But though Commissioners met to prosecute this Enquiry, yet, the Ruin of the Bishop and principal Dignitaries of the Cathedral being chiefly aimed at, the whole Matter came at last to nothing; for it plainly appearing, that the ruinous Condition into which this ancient Fabric was fallen, could in no Sense be imputed to those with whom the Care of it was entrusted, who had annually expended more upon it than was allotted them for that Purpose, the Zeal of the most active amongst them began to abate, and so the Affair, by the Indifference of some, and the Disappointment of others, was suffered to drop, though a good Proportion of Stone had been provided by the Vigilance of the then Bishop and his Successor, which was afterwards borrowed by the Duke of *Buckingham*, and applied to the Building the Water-Gate at *York-House*; and thus ended the first Attempt for the effectual Reparation of this ancient Structure.

But in the succeeding Reign another Commission was obtained for the same Purpose, by the
powerful

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powerful Influence of *Laud*, which was attended with better Success; insomuch, that on the 16th of *June*, 1632, an Order was signed to *Inigo Jones*, his Majesty's Surveyor General, with Directions to begin the Repairs at the South-East End, and to bring them along by the South to the West End, upwards of 5416*l.* being already collected for that Purpose.

This able Architect prosecuted the Work with uncommon Diligence, so that in nine Years, except the Steeple, which was intended to be wholly taken down, and, by stronger Pillars to support it, built, in Proportion to the Church, with a lofty Spire of Stone; all the rest was perfectly finished, both within and without, together with a most magnificent and stately Portico built at the sole Charge of King *Charles I.* and ornamented with the Statues of his royal Father and himself. This Portico was of the *Corinthian* Order, and intended for an Ambulatory for People, who, by walking in the Body of the Church, were wont to disturb the Service.

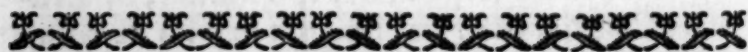
Among the other liberal Contributors to this laudable Undertaking, Sir *Paul Pinder* is especially to be remembered, who at his own Expence repaired the West Division of the Choir, adorning it outwardly with Pillars of black Marble, and Statues of the *Saxon* Kings who had been the Benefactors to the ancient Fabric, and beautifying it within with excellent Carvings of Angels, Cherubims, and other Imagery richly gilt, besides contributing 4000*l.* towards the repairing the South Cross.

All things being now in Readiness for erecting the Steeple and Spire, an Estimate was made of the Monies contributed for, and the Monies already expended in Repairs; whereby it appeared that

that 101,330*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* had been received into the Chamber of *London* on this Account, and but 35,551*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* paid out: so that there appeared a Fund sufficient in Hand to erect it in the most magnificent Manner that could be devised; but the Flames of Civil War breaking soon after violently out, a Period was put to this grand Design, and a Cloud overshadowed the Lustre of the Whole.— The ancient Order of Discipline was dissolved, the Revenues seized, the famous Cross in the Church-Yard pulled down, and the Scaffolding of the Steeple assigned by Parliament for the Payment of Arrears due to the Army; the Body of the Church was converted into Saw-pits, and the Choir into a preaching Place, in which the famous Dr. *Cornelius Burgess* used to inveigh against Bishops; all Order was inverted, all Decency destroyed; Part of the South Cross was suffered to tumble down, and the North Cross was made a Horse Quarter for Soldiers; the stately Portico was let out to Sempstresses and Milliners; and in short this stately, this venerable Building, once the Glory and Ornament of this Nation, every Way profaned and debased; inso-much, that at the Restoration, when the Bishops with the Deans and Prebends were restored, they found the Stalls in the Choir, and the Organ-Loft totally demolished, and no Place proper for the Solemnization of God's Worship in all this stately Edifice. A new Commission was therefore procured for it's immediate Reparation, and Money, by a voluntary Contribution, was brought in with amazing Rapidity; but before any Thing material could be accomplished, though upwards of 3500*l.* had been expended in Preparations, the dreadful Fire of *London* put the finishing Stroke to the Misfortunes that had of late foreboded it's final Demolition; and now came to pass what Lord *Brooke*, in sailing
along

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along the Water with three other Lords, in 1640, wished one of them might live to see, namely, *no one Stone left upon another of that superstitious Structure*, as his Lordship was pleased to call this stately Church; for what was left of the ruinated Walls were, after this Fire, entirely pulled down, and the Foundation cleared, in order to erect the present Edifice, of which we come now to give an Account. One Thing remarkable, however, we must not omit, and that is, concerning the Body of Bishop *Braybroke* found among the Rubbish of this old Fabric in a Leaden Coffin; and though it had been buried more than 260 Years, as by the Inscription appeared, yet it was not the least inclined to Putrefaction, the Flesh, Sinews, and Skin being so dried to the Bones, that when it was set upright it stood as stiff as a Board. *Dugdale* tells us of two other Bodies found at the same Time, dried in the same Manner; and mentions, besides, the Corps of *William Parr*, Marquis of *Northampton*, discovered in the Choir of *St. Mary's Church, Warwick*, in whose Coffin, though interred 50 Years before, the Rosemary and Bays were also as fresh as if they had not been laid therein ten Days. This he ascribes to the Heat and Driness of the Dust wherein those Bodies lay, and not to the Sanctity of the Persons, as was the prevailing Opinion at that Time, nor to any other supernatural Cause.



Of the NEW CATHEDRAL.

AFTER two Years fruitless Labour, in endeavouring to fit some Part of the old Fabric for Divine Worship after the Fire of *London*, it

was at length discovered that the whole was utterly incapable of any substantial Repair; and therefore it was concluded, as has already been intimated, to raze the Foundations of the old Building, and on the same Spot of Ground to erect a new Cathedral, which should equal, if not exceed, the Splendor and Magnificence of the Old. For this End, Letters Patent under the Great Seal were obtained, directed to several Lords spiritual and temporal, and others of eminent Rank and Quality, authorizing them to proceed in this great Undertaking, according to the Rules and Orders in those Letters Patent prescribed; and especially appointed Sir *Christopher Wren*, Surveyor General of all his Majesty's Works, to prepare a suitable Design, and cause a Model thereof to be made, after so large and exact a Manner as to remain a perpetual and unchangeable Rule and Direction for the Conduct of the whole Work; of which Model we shall speak hereafter. The next Thing to be considered, was how to raise a Fund sufficient for carrying into Execution a Work of such prodigious Expence; but the liberal Contributions which had formerly been made towards the Reparations only of the old Building, gave Assurance sufficient how little they had to fear on that Account, when a new Fabric, that was to be the Glory of the Realm, an Honour to his Majesty's Reign, and a principal Ornament to the great and opulent City of *London*, was cordially set on Foot: And indeed the Expectations of the most sanguine, were greatly exceeded in this Particular; for as the Chamber of *London*, under certain Limitations, was made the Office of Receipt for all Contributions, it appears by an exact Calculation, that, in the first ten Years only more than 126,000*l.* had been paid in to carry on the Work; for, besides a new
Duty

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Duty on Coals, which at a Medium produced 5000 *l.* a Year, his Majesty was generously pleased to allow 1000 *l.* a Year out of his Privy-Purse, over and above all other Grants in it's Favour; so that the Legacies, Subscriptions, and Gifts that were continually falling in, were more than enough for the Purposes required.

Sir *Christopher* was now called upon to produce his Designs, with which he was by no Means unprepared; for he had drawn several for Discourse Sake only, in order to discover what would be most acceptable to the general Taste; and finding a Concurrence among all Degrees for Magnificence and Grandeur, he endeavoured to gratify the Connoisseurs with a Design antique and well-studied, conformable to the best Style of the *Greek* and *Roman* Architecture: And of this Design he caused a curious large Model in Wood to be made, accurately wrought, with all it's proper Ornaments, and presented it to his Majesty; but the Bishops not approving it, as not enough of a Cathedral Fashion, the Surveyor was ordered to amend it, and at length produced the Scheme of the present mighty Structure, which was honoured with his Majesty's Approbation. The first Design, however, which was of one Order only, the *Corinthian*, like *St. Peter's* at *Rome*, the Surveyor set a higher Value upon than any other he ever drew, and what he would have put in Execution with more Chearfulness, as the Author of his Life assures us, than that which we now see erected. This curious original Model is still preserved in the Cathedral, and may be seen at a small Expence.

All Things being thus prepared, and many Difficulties surmounted, which arose from the Objections of incompetent Judges, in the Year 1675, Sir *Christopher* began to prosecute the Work; the
pulling

pulling down the old Walls, being 80 Feet high, and clearing the Rubbish had been a troublesome Business, in which very many of the Labourers had lost their Lives; and this had put him upon contriving to facilitate the execution of it by artificial Means. The first Project he tried was with Gun-powder; for when they came to the middle Tower that bore the Steeple, the Men absolutely refused to work upon it, being of such a Height as to strike the most enterprizing of them with Horror. He therefore caused a Hole to be dug, about four Feet wide, to the Foundation of the North West Pillar, of which there were four that supported it, each 14 Feet diameter, and then, with Tools made on purpose, wrought a Hole two Feet square, into the very Center of the Pillar; there he placed a little Deal Box, containing 18 Pounds of Powder, and no more; a Cane was fixed to the Box with a quick Match, and the Hole closed up again with as much Art and Strength as possible. Nothing remained now but to set Fire to the Train; and the Surveyor was exceeding curious to observe the Effect of the Explosion, which indeed was wonderful; for this small Quantity of Powder not only lifted up the whole Angle of the Tower, with two Arches that rested upon it, but also two adjoining Arches of the Isles, and all above them; and this it seemed to do somewhat leisurely, cracking the Walls to the top, and lifting up visibly the whole Weight about nine Inches: which suddenly tumbling to it's Center again, caused an enormous Heap of Ruin without scattering, and it was half a Minute before this huge Mountain opened in two or three Places, and emitted Smoke. The Shock of so great a Weight, from a Height of 200 Feet, alarmed the Inhabitants round about with the terrible Apprehensions of an

B

Earthquake;

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Earthquake; and, after a second Trial of the same Kind, managed injudiciously by a Deputy, who, too wise in his own Conceit, put in a greater Quantity of Powder, and omitted to take the same Care in closing up the Hole, or digging to the Foundation, though it had the desired Effect, yet one Stone was shot, as from the Mouth of a Cannon, to the opposite Side of the Church-Yard, and entered a private Room where some Women were at Work, without any Damage, other than spreading a Panic among the Neighbours, who instantly made Application above to forbid the farther Use of Gunpowder, and Orders were issued from the Council-Board accordingly. The Surveyor was now reduced to the Necessity of trying a new Experiment, with the *Battering Ram of the Ancients*. He caused a strong Mast, forty Feet long, to be shod with Iron at the biggest End, and to be fortified every Way with Bars and Ferrels; and then ordering it to be suspended level to a triangle Prop, set it to work. Thirty Men were employed in vibrating this Machine, who beat in one Place against the Wall a whole Day without any sensible Effect: He bid them not despair, but try what another Day would produce. On the second Day the Wall was perceived to tremble at Top, and in a few Hours it fell. The Surveyor knew that any present Violence of the Ram was incapable of overturning a Wall of such Strength, but incessantly vibrating with equidistant Pulses, makes a small intestine Motion through all it's Parts, and, by Degrees, loosens all the Bond of Mortar, and moves every Stone from it's Bed, till at length the Whole becomes loose and tumbles. This Machine therefore he continued to use till that tedious Business was accomplished.

Some

Some remarks which Sir *Christopher Wren* made in clearing the Foundation of this ancient Fabric, though somewhat foreign to my Design, will, I am persuaded, be acceptable to the Curious. He seems to discredit the received Opinion of this being anciently a Temple of *DIANA*; because as that Opinion was chiefly grounded on the Report of the Heads of Oxen, the Horns of Deer, and the Tusks of Boars being commonly dug up here, he met with none such in all his Researches; but that the North Side had been anciently a great Burying-Place, appeared to him upon unquestionable Evidence; for under the Graves of these latter Ages, he found in a Row the Graves of the *Saxons*, who were wont to case their Dead with Chalk-stones, though those of them of greatest Eminence were buried in Stone Coffins. Below these were Graves of the ancient *Britons*, as was manifest from the great Number of Ivory and Wooden Pins found among the mouldered Dust; their Method was only to pin the Corpse in Woollen Shrouds, and lay them in the Ground, which being consumed, the Pins remained entire. Deeper still than these were *Roman Urns*, and *British* Fragments mixed: These were found at the Depth of 18 Feet, and he supposed belonged to the Colony when *Romans* and *Britons* lived and died together. The *Roman Urns* were generally well wrought, of the Colour of the modern red Ware of *Staffordshire*, hard as China Ware, and as well glazed, and imbossed with various Figures and Devices; on one of these *Charon* was represented with his Oar in one Hand, and receiving with the other a naked Ghost.

Searching below these Graves for the natural Ground, he observed that the Foundation of the old Church stood upon a Layer of very close and

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hard Pot-Earth, about 6 Feet deep on the North Side, but gradually thinning towards the South, till on the Decline of the Hill it was scarce four Feet; yet he concluded that the same Ground which had borne so weighty a Building before, might reasonably be trusted again. Boreing, however, beneath this, he found a Stratum of loose Sand; and lower still, at the Level of Low-water Mark, Water and Sand mixed with Periwinkles and other Sea Shells; under this a hard Beach; and lowermost of all, the natural Bed of Clay that extends under the City, and Country, and River, far and wide. By these Shells he thinks it evident, that the Sea has been where the Hill is on which St. Paul's now stands, and that all that Tract of Country between *Camberwell-Hill* and the Hills of *Essex*, might have been once one great Bay. But to return to the Ruins: In examining these he observed further, that though the old Fabric had several Times been ruined, yet the Foundations appeared to be the same as originally laid, consisting of *Kentish-rubble-stone*, artfully worked and consolidated with exceeding hard Mortar, in the *Roman* Manner, much excelling what he found in the Superstructure, the Outside of which was built chiefly with the Freestone of the *Palatine Tower*, as has been already said, less skilfully put together, and with worse Mortar. A little eastward of the Choir he discovered nine Wells in a Row, which he believed had anciently belonged to a Street of Houses extending from *Walling-Street* to *Cheapside*. We shall have Occasion to speak of his Discoveries in other Parts of the City hereafter. What induced him to change the Scite of the Church, and rase all the old Foundations after finding them so firm, was chiefly to give the new Fabric a more free and graceful Aspect; yet, after all, he found himself

too much confined, and not able to bring his Front to lie exactly from *Ludgate*. In his Progress, however, he met with one Misfortune which made him almost repent of the Alteration he had made: He began to lay the Foundations from the West End, and having proceeded successfully to the East End, as he was extending his Lines to the North-East, where nothing was expected to interrupt him, he fell upon a Pit where all the hard Crust of Pot-Earth that has been mentioned had been robbed by the Porters of old Time, and the Hole filled up with broken Fragments of Urns, Vases, and such like Rubbish, to his unspeakable Mortification. He wanted but six or seven Feet to complete his Design, yet there was no Remedy but digging through the Sand, and building from the solid Earth, that was forty Feet deep at least. Piling was proposed, but that he utterly rejected, as liable to Decay, for his Endeavours were to build to eternity; he therefore sunk a Pit 18 Feet wide (though he wanted at most but seven) through all the Strata that has already been mentioned, and laid the Foundations of a square Pier of solid good Masonry upon the hard Sea beach that covered the original Clay, which he carried up till he came within 15 Feet of the present Surface; and then turned a short Arch under Ground to the Level of the Stratum of hard Pot-Earth, upon which Arch the North-East Coin of the Choir of *St. Paul's* now stands, and no Doubt will stand.

This Difficulty being surmounted, and the Foundations laid, the next consideration was how to complete the Superstructure. *Portland Stone* had been made Choice of for that Purpose on several Accounts, but chiefly as those of the largest Scantlings were to be procured from thence, yet these could not be presumed upon for Columns

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exceeding four Feet in Diameter; this determined Sir *Christopher* to make Choice of two Orders, instead of one, and an *Attic* Story, as at St. *Peter's* at *Rome*, in order to preserve the just Proportions of his Cornice, otherwise the Fabric must have fallen short of it's intended Height. *Bramante*, in building St. *Peter's*, though he had the Quarries of *Tivoli* at Hand, that could afford him Blocks large enough for his Columns of nine Feet Diameter; yet, for Want of Stones of suitable Dimensions, was obliged to diminish the Proportions of the proper Members of his Cornice; a Fault, against which Sir *Christopher* thought himself interested to guard. On these Principles therefore he proceeded, and raised the lofty Edifice we now see; a Range of double Pilasters, with their Entablatures of the *Corinthian* Order, adorn the lower Division of the Building, and as many of the Composite or *Roman* Order, ornament the Upper. The Spaces between the Arches of the Windows and the Architrave of the lower Order, are filled with great Variety of curious Enrichments, as are those likewise above. On the West Front he erected a most magnificent Portico, graced with two stately Turrets and a Pediment, enriched with Sculpture. The Entrance to the North and South is likewise by two magnificent Porticos, and the East End is beautified by a noble Piece of Carving, in Honour of his Majesty K. *William III.* Over all is a Dome, terminated by a Lantern, Ball, and Cross; and, that nothing might be wanting to render the Whole of a Piece, he had prepared a Model of a magnificent Altar, consisting of four Pillars wreathed, of the richest *Greek* Marbles, supporting a Canopy hemispherically, with proper Decorations of Architecture and Sculpture; but this being once unluckily frustrated for Want of proper

per Materials, has never since been resumed. It has been asked, why all the Pilasters of the Outside were doubled? The Answer is, they serve as Buttresses, and to give Space to large Windows between, as also for adjusting the Arcades within, and regulating the Roof. The West Portico has given Offence to some, because the Columns are doubled, contrary to the usual Mode of the Ancients; but it must be observed, in the Portico of *St. Paul's*, two Columns are brought nearer together to make greater Intercolumns alternately, to give a proper Space for three Doors. The Ancients, particularly the *Greeks*, in their Temples, generally made the middle Intercolumn wider than the rest; and as they shifted the Columns of the Portico for the better Approach to one Door, so, at *St. Paul's*, for the same Reason, where there are three Doors, the two side Doors for daily Use, and the middle for Solemnities, the Columns are widened to make a more free and commodious Access to each, and this falls out gracefully by placing the Pillars alternately, wide and close.

Whatever Objections may have been started about the Faults committed in Point of Taste, such as incorporating the lesser Pilasters with the greater; not elevating the Vaulting within to a proper Height, nor projecting the Portico without to a pleasing Distance; making the Dome too large, and the Fabric too small; yet the Skill and Ingenuity of the Architect can never be admired too much, when the Strength and Majesty of the Building are distinctly considered. He was under an absolute Necessity of making a three-ided Cathedral; and, to comply with the Humour of the Age, to build it in the Form of a Cross; he was limited, for want of Room, to extend it's Scite; and constrained, by the general Expectations of the Kingdom,

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dom, to make it exceed in Height; and, above all Things, his own Reputation demanded that it should be substantial. Let this suffice at present for the outward Structure.

As the Disposition of the Vaultings within is an essential Beauty, without which all other Ornaments would be of no Avail, so the Surveyor seems to have been particularly careful in this Respect: "The *Romans* (says the Author of *Parentalia*) used hemispherical Vaultings; Sir *Christopher* chose those, as being demonstrably lighter than the Diagonal-cross Vaults: So the whole Vault of *St. Paul's* consists of 24 Cupolas, cut off semicircular, with Segments to join to the great Arches one Way, and which are cut across the other Way with elliptical Cylinders, to let in the upper Lights of the Nave; but in the *Isles*, the lesser Cupolas are both Ways cut in semicircular Sections, and altogether make a graceful Geometrical Form, distinguished with circular Wreaths, which is the horizontal Section, of the Cupola; for the Hemisphere may be cut all Manner of Ways into circular Section; and the Arches and Wreaths being of Stone carved, the Spandrels between are of sound Brick, invested with *Stucco* of Cockle-shell Lime, which becomes as hard as *Portland-Stone*; and which, having large Planes between the Stone Ribs, are capable of further Ornaments of Painting, if required. Besides these 24 Cupolas, there is a Half Cupola at the East, and the great Cupola, of 108 Feet Diameter, in the Middle of the crossing of the great *Isles*. In this the Architect imitated the Pantheon at *Rome*, excepting that the upper Order is there only Umbra- tile, and distinguished by different coloured Mar- bles, in *St. Paul's* it is extant out of the Wall. The Pantheon is no higher within than it's Diamo-
ter;

ter; *St. Peter's* is two Diameters : This shews too high, the other too low. *St. Paul's* is a mean Proportion between both, which shews it's Concave every Way, and is very lightsome by the Windows of the upper Order, which strike down the Light through the great Colonade that encircles the Dome without, and serves for the Butment of the Dome, which is Brick of two Bricks thick; but as it rises every Way five Feet high, has a Course of excellent Brick of 18 Inches long banding through the whole Thickness; and moreover, to make it still more secure, it is surrounded with a vast Chain of Iron strongly linked together at every ten Feet. This Chain is let into a Channel cut into the Bandage of *Portland-stone*, and defended from the Weather by filling the Groove with Lead. The Concave was turned upon a Center, which was judged necessary to keep the Work even and true, though a Cupola might be built without a Center : But this is observable, that the Center was laid without any Standards from below to support it; and as it was both Centering and Scaffolding, it remained for the Use of the Painter. Every Story of this Scaffolding being circular, and the Ends of all the Ledgers meeting as so many Rings, and truly wrought, it supported itself. This Machine was an Original of the Kind, and will be an useful Project for the like Work to an Architect hereafter. It was necessary to give a greater Height than the Cupola would gracefully allow within, though it is considerably above the Roof of the Church; yet the old Church having had before a very lofty Spire of Timber and Lead, the World expected that the new Work should not in this Respect fall short of the Old. The Architect was therefore obliged to comply with the Humour of the Age, and to

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raise another Structure over the first Cupola; and this was a Cone of Brick, so built as to support a Stone Lantern of an elegant Figure, and ending in Ornaments of Copper gilt.

As the whole Church, above the Vaulting, is covered with a substantial Oaken Roof, and Lead (for no other Covering is so durable in our Climate) so he covered and hid out of Sight the Brick Cone, with another Cupola of Timber and Lead; and between this and the Cone are easy Stairs that ascend to the Lantern. Here the Spectator may have a View of such amazing Contrivances as is indeed astonishing. He forbore to make little Luthern Windows in the Leaden Cupola, as are done out of St. *Peter's*, because he had otherwise provided for Light enough to the Stairs from the Lantern above, and round the Pedestal of the same, which are not seen below; so that he only ribbed the outward Cupola, which he thought less *Gothic* than to stick it full of such little Lights, in three Stories, one above another, as is in the Cupola of St. *Peter's*, which could not without Difficulty be mended, and if neglected would soon damage the Timbers."

The Inside of this Cupola is painted, and richly decorated, by that eminent *English* Artist Sir *James Thornhill*, who in eight Compartments has represented the principal Passages in the History of St. *Paul's* Life, namely, his Conversion; his punishing *Elymas* the Sorcerer with Blindness; his preaching at *Athens*; his curing the poor Cripple at *Lystra*, and the Reverence there paid him by the Priests of *Jupiter* as a God; his Conversion of the Goaler; his preaching at *Ephesus*, and the burning the magic Books in Consequence of the Miracles he there wrought; his Trial before *Agrippa*; his Shipwreck on the Island of *Melita* or *Malta*, and

and his Miracle of the Viper. These Paintings are all advantageously seen by Means of a circular Opening, through which the Light is transmitted from the Lantern above with admirable Effect. But as Sir *Christopher* was aware that Paintings, though ever so excellent, are liable to Decay, it was his Intent to have beautified the Inside of his Cupola with the more durable Ornaments of *Mosaic* Work, which strike the Eye of the Beholder with amazing Lustre, and which, without the least Decay of Colours, is as durable as the Building itself; but in this he was unfortunately overruled, though he had undertaken to procure four of the most eminent Artists in that Profession from *Italy*.

The highest or last Stone, on the Top of the Lantern, was laid by the Hands of *Christopher Wren*, the Surveyor's Son, in the Year 1710, in the presence of Mr. *Strong*, principal Mason, his Son, and other *Free and Accepted Masons*, who were chiefly employed in the Execution of the Work. — Thus, says my Author, was this mighty Fabric, lofty enough to be discerned at Sea Eastward, and at *Windsor* Westward, in the Space of 35 Years, begun and finished by one Architect, one principal Mason, Mr. *Strong*, and under one Bishop of *London*, Dr. *Henry Compton*; and the Charge supported chiefly by a small and easy Imposition on Sea-Coal: Whereas *St. Peter's* at *Rome*, the only Edifice that can come in Competition with it, continued in Building 145 Years, under 12 successive Architects; assisted by the Police and Interests of the *Roman* See; attended by the best Artists of the World in Sculpture, Statuary, Painting, and *Mosaic* Work, and facilitated by the ready Acquisition of Marble from the neighbouring Quarries of *Tivoli*.

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We have hitherto said nothing in particular of the ingenious Mr. *Hill*, who was chiefly employed in the Decorations; nor of those fine Statues and Carvings of his, that add such Spirit and Beauty to the Appearance of the Whole. At a proper Distance the Eye is charmed with the lively Representation of St. *Paul's* Conversion, carved in Relief on the Pediment of the principal Front; the majestic Figure of St. *Paul* on the Apex of the Pediment, with St. *Peter* on his Right, and St. *James* on his Left, have a fine Effect. The four Evangelists, with their proper Emblems on the Front of the Towers, are likewise very judiciously disposed and well executed. St. *Matthew* is distinguished by an Angel, St. *Mark* by a Lion, St. *Luke* by an Ox, and St. *John* by an Eagle. On the Pediment over the North Portico, the royal Arms with the Regalia, supported by Angels, are beautifully embossed; and, lest this View of the Cathedral should appear barren, the Statues of five of the Apostles are placed, at proper Distances, to entertain the Sight. The Device on the Pediment, over the South Portico, of a Phoenix rising out of the Flames, with the Word RESURGAM underneath it, had perhaps it's Origin from an Incident which happened at the Beginning of the Work, and which was particularly remarked by the Architect as a favourable Omen. The Incident was this: When Sir *Christopher* himself had set out upon the Place the Dimensions of the Building, and fixed upon the Center of the great Dome, a common Labourer was ordered to bring him a flat Stone, the first he came at, from among the Rubbish, to leave as a Mark of Direction to the Masons. The Stone which the Fellow brought and laid down for this Purpose happened to be a Piece of Grave-stone, with nothing remaining of the Inscription but

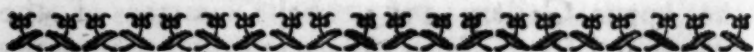
but this single Word, in large Capitals, RESURGAM; a Circumstance which Sir *Christopher* never forgot. On this Side of the Building are likewise five Statues, which take their Situation from that of St. *Andrew*, on the Apex of the Pediment just mentioned.

It remains now only to speak of the Dimensions of this new Fabric, and then to conclude our Description of it. It's Dimensions therefore from East to West, within the Walls, are 500 Feet; from North to South, within the Doors of the Porticos, 223 Feet; the Breadth, at the Entrance, 100 Feet; it's Circuit 2292 Feet; it's Height within 110 Feet; to the Gallery of the Dome 208 Feet; to the upper Gallery 276; the Diameter of the Dome 108 Feet; from thence to the top of the Cross 64 Feet; of the Cross from the Ball 10 Feet; the Diameter of the Ball six Feet; the Diameter of the Columns of the Porticos four Feet; their Height 48 Feet; to the Top of the West Pediment, under the Figure of St. *Paul*, 120 Feet; of the Towers, at the West Front, 280 Feet; and the Extent of the Ground-Plot whereon it stands, two Acres, 16 Perches, 23 Yards, and one Foot. This vast Fabric is surrounded, at a proper Distance, with strong Iron Pallisadoes, in Number about 2500; and in the Area of the grand West Front, on a Pedestal of Excellent Workmanship, stands a Statue of Queen *Anne*, with proper Decorations. The Figures on the Base represent *Britannia* with her Spear, *Gallia* with a Crown in her Lap, *Hibernia* with her Harp, and *America* with her Bow; all of the Workmanship of the same ingenious Statuary that performed the rest.

This grand Cathedral, thus finished, as an excellent Author observes, “is undoubtedly one of the most magnificent modern Buildings in Europe;”

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“ *rope* ; all the Parts of which it is composed are
 “ superlatively beautiful and noble. The North
 “ and South Fronts, in particular, are very perfect
 “ Pieces of Architecture ; neither ought the East
 “ to go without due Applause. The two Spires
 “ at the West End are in a finished Taste, and
 “ the Portico with the Ascent, and the Dome that
 “ rises in the Center of the Whole, afford a very
 “ august and surprizing Prospect.” In short, in sur-
 veying this stupendous Monument of our Country’s
 Genius, the Imagination is filled with a lofty Kind
 of Admiration, which no Building of less Majesty
 and Grandeur can excite.



Of the CURIOSITIES, &c.

ENTERING at the South Door, on your left
 Hand, are the Stairs by which you ascend the
 Cupola, to gratify your Curiosity with a Prospect
 from the Golden-Gallery, as it is called, of the
 River, City, and Country round ; which in a clear
 Day discovers the most pleasing Variety in the
 World. You arrive at this Gallery by 534 Steps,
 260 of which are so easy that a Child may ascend
 them ; but those above are unpleasant, and in some
 Places exceeding dark, particularly between the
 Brick Cone already spoken of, and the outer Case
 of the Dome ; but what Light you have, affords you
 an amazing Proof of the Architect’s wonderful Con-
 trivance. From the first Gallery you have a fine
 Prospect, with which many remain satisfied, and
 never attempt to go any higher.

In your Descent you will be invited to see the Whispering-Gallery, and it is from hence you have the most advantageous View of the fine Paintings in the Cupola. To this Gallery there is an easy Ascent, for persons of Note, by a most beautiful Flight of Stairs, not to be exceeded. Here Sounds are enlarged to an amazing Degree; the shutting of the Door seems as loud as Thunder at a Distance; the least Whisper is heard round the whole Circumference; and one Person speaking against the Wall, on this Side, appears to be present to another on the other Side, though the Distance between them is no less than 143 Feet. This will afford an Idea how the Oracles of old may have been delivered, and the World, by the Art of the Builder, in the Formation of their Idolatrous Temples, imposed upon.

The next Thing you are invited to see is the Library, the Flooring whereof is indeed the greatest Curiosity in it, for that is most artfully inlaid, without either Nails or Pegs, like the framing of a Billiard-Table. The Books are neither numerous nor valuable; but the Wainscoting and Cases for their Reception, want neither Elegance nor Convenience. There is here a fine Painting of Bishop *Compton*, under whom, as has been said, the Cathedral was built.

The next Curiosity is the fine Model which Sir *Christopher Wren* first caused to be made, in order to have built the new Cathedral in every Respect like it. It is a Mistake that this Model was taken from St. *Peter's* at *Rome*; it was Sir *Christopher's* own Invention, laboured with much Study, and, as he thought, finished with good Success. Pity it is, that so valuable a Fragment of the utmost Exertion of this great Man's Genius, should be suffered to run to Decay.

You

36 Of St. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL,

You are likewise asked to see the great Bell, in the South Tower, which weighs 84 C. Weight. On this Bell the Hammer of the great Clock strikes the Hour, and on lesser Bells the Quarters are struck. But the Sound of both is so excessively loud, that tender ears are much affected if either happens to strike while near them. The sound of the great Bell is said to have been heard as far as *Windsor*; and a Soldier upon Duty there, in the Dead of Night, being found asleep, as his Officer believed, escaped Punishment by telling him he was only attentively listening to St. Paul's Clock, which had just struck thirteen; the Officer thought it a Matter worth Enquiry, and met with a Confirmation of the Fact by Officers as well as Soldiers on Duty in St. James's Park.

You are also shewn the Geometry Stairs, as they are called, the Steps of which are so artfully contrived as to hang, as it were, together, without any visible Support. There is nothing novel in this, and yet this Manner of Building may be said to be the farthest Limits that the Geometric Powers have hitherto been carried into Practice.

Lastly, you are shewn the Colours which were taken from the French at *Louisburgh*, in the Year 1758, and hung up in the Body of the Cathedral, over the great Western Entrance, on Wednesday the 6th of September the same Year: They consist of One Artillery Standard, white and gold; One Pair of *Spanish* Ragged Staves; One Pair of *Swiss* Ensign Colours, green and white; Two Pair of Ensign Colours, blue and white; and Two Staves without Colours.

Of the CARVING in the Inside.

BESIDES the Choir, the Stalls of which are indeed very beautifully carved, and the other Ornaments equal in Point of Workmanship to any Thing of the Kind, there is a Morning-prayer Chapel in this Cathedral, where divine Service is performed every Day, *Sundays* excepted, the Front of which has a magnificent Screen of carved Wainscot that has been particularly admired by the best Judges, as has the Carving of the stately Figures that adorn the Organ-Case; but, amidst all these several Beauties, something seems still to be wanting to render the Whole complete. "The opening through the present beautiful Range of Stalls, *says a judicious Critic*, might have terminated in a much more magnificent Alcove than we see there at present, adorned with all the Elegance and Profusion of Decoration; the * Altar should have been raised of the richest Marble, in the most expensive Taste, that it might have been of a Piece with the Rest of the Church, and terminated the View of the Whole with all the Graces of the most luxuriant Imagination. All the intermediate Spaces should have been filled up with the noblest Historical Paintings; all the Majesty of Frize-Work, Cornices, and Carving, heightened with the most costly Guildings, should have been lavished to adorn it; and one grand Flow of magnificent Curtain depended from the Windows to finish the Whole." But notwithstanding all these Objections, and more that have been started, we will venture to conclude, that for Loftiness and Grandeur,

* This was intended by Sir CHRISTOPHER, and the present Ornaments made only to serve a Turn till Materials could be procured for a more magnificent Design.

38 Of St. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL,

Beauty in Perspective, Truth and Firmness in Building, Taste in Design, Harmony of Parts, and Convenience for the solemn Celebration of Divine Worship, there neither is, nor ever was, so perfect a Building began and finished under the sole Direction of one Man, in the Universe.

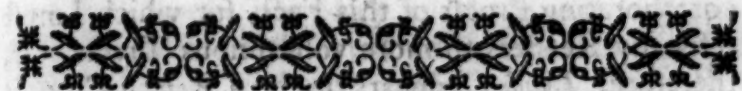
The Dimensions of the old Cathedral of St. Paul compared with the New, and both with St. Peter's at Rome.

The Length & Breadth, Height and Front, &c. are as follow :	Old St. Paul's. Feet.	New St. Paul's. Feet.	St. Peter's. Feet.
Long within - - - -	660	500	669
Broad at the Entrance		100	226
Front without - -		180	395
Broad at the Cross -	130	223	442
Cupola clear - - -		108	139
Height from the Level of the Ground }	520	440	578
Height of the Churches	150	110	146
Cupola and Lantern } high - - - - }		330	432

Old St. Paul's stood upon three Acres and a Half, one Rood and a Half, and six Perches of Ground.

New St. Paul's stands upon two Acres, sixteen Perches, 23 Yards, and one Foot.

SOME



S O M E

A C C O U N T

O F

L O N D O N - S T O N E .

¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ T seems really Matter of Surprise, that
 ¶ I ¶ *London-Stone*, which from Age to Age
 ¶ ¶ has been preserved with so much Care,
 ¶ ¶ ¶ should yet have so little said about it, as
 that the Original Cause of it's Erection, or the Use
 for which it was intended, is now utterly unknown.
 Some Conjectures, I shall venture, indeed, to make
 concerning it; but, after all, I must acknowledge
 them not founded on Evidence sufficient to establish
 the Fact,

That it is a Fragment of *Roman* Antiquity, I
 believe is certain: And that *London* itself is a *Ro-*
man City, appears to me no less so; for whatever
 may be the fabulous Origin of either, I am con-
 vinced, that from our own Records no Trace can
 be gathered, when, by whom, or on what Occa-
 sion they were erected. That no such City as
London existed at the Time of the *Roman* Invasion,
 is manifest from the Silence of *Cæsar* concerning
 it; for he who came to inform himself of the Man-
 ners, Customs, and Country of the *Ancient Britons*,
 in order to transmit to Posterity what he thought
 memorable amongst them, would hardly have
 passed over so remarkable a Part as their capital
 City, without proper Notice; but there are other
 corroborating

corroborating Proofs of this Fact, for which I must refer my Readers to more voluminous Tracts. If, therefore, *London* appears to be a *Roman City*, it will be no improbable Conjecture that *London-Stone* was the Center, from whence they extended it's Dimensions, and might serve likewise for a *GOLDEN STONE*, as they were used to call the Standard at which they began to compute their Miles. I find of my Opinion, in this Particular, Mr. *Maitland*, Author of the *History of London*, and Sir *Christopher Wren*, who grounded his Conjecture upon Proofs which are not every Day to be obtained; for, after the great Conflagration in 1666, being employed to rebuild most of the Churches in the City, he then had an Opportunity of discovering and tracing the ancient Boundaries of *London*, with a greater Nicety than is ever to be expected again. On clearing the Foundations of *St. Mary le Bow* in *Cheapside*, he found, upon opening the Ground, the Walls, with the Windows also, and Pavement of a *Roman Temple*, entirely buried under the Level of the present Street. This Temple stood about 40 Feet backwards, but having Occasion to bring the Steeple of the new Church to range with the high Street, he again began to dig through the Made-ground, till at 18 Feet deep, to his Surprise, he discovered a *Roman Causeway* of rough Stone, four Feet thick, close and well-rammed, with *Roman Brick* and Rubbish at the Bottom, all firmly cemented. He was therefore of Opinion, for divers Reasons *, that this

* Particularly, because the North side beyond the Causeway was a great Fen or Morass, as Sir *CHRISTOPHER* discovered, when he rebuilt the East Front of *St. LAWRENCE* near *GUILDHALL*. This Morass was not drained till the Year 1414, and still retains the Name of *MOORFIELDS*; and the Place where the Gate stood is called *MOORGATE*.

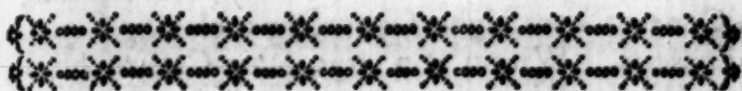
was the North Boundary of the *Roman* Colony, and that the Breadth then, from North to South, was from this Causeway, now *Cheapside*, to the River *Thames*; the Extent East and West from *Tower-Hill* to *Ludgate*, and the principal or *Prætorian* Way, he supposed to be *Watling-Street*; hence it appears that LONDON-STONE was then nearly in the Center. I shall mention but one Argument more to strengthen my Conjecture, and then leave it to the Judgment of the Reader. After the Fire already mentioned, the Labourers, in digging the Foundations of the Houses in *Scot's-Yard*, between *London-Stone* and the River, at the Depth of twenty Feet, discovered a tessellated or checquered Pavement after the *Roman* Manner, and the Remains of a large Building or Hall; the former was supposed to belong to the *Roman* Governor's Palace, and the latter to be the Court of Justice: And as the *Romans* were wont to build their *Basilicas* in the *Forum* of their Cities, it is more than probable that LONDON-STONE stood as well in the Center of the *Forum*, as in the Center of the City.

I would here be understood, however, to mean the City as it was before the Destruction of it by *Boadicea*; for afterwards, I am inclined to believe, it was greatly enlarged, and encompassed with Walls, which it had hardly been before, there being neither Time nor Leisure for such a laborious Undertaking.

It would be leading me, perhaps, too far into a Dispute that has already divided almost all the Antiquarians that have written upon the Subject, if I were to offer a Conjecture that the *Londinium* of *Tacitus*, was no other than the *Cameludunum* of the same Author, and that the latter might be given by the Natives, whose Language, we well know,

know, would admit of no very near Approach to that of the *Romans*, and whose Genius it was, and is, to affix some Peculiarity of their own to every Name of Note, either by Way of Eminence or Reproach.

Why *Malden* in *Essex* should be pitched upon as the *Cameludunum* of *Tacitus*, I own I can yet see no good Reason assigned; but it may be urged, that *Tacitus* himself has sufficiently distinguished between his *Londinium* and *Cameludunum*, by representing the former as a Place of great Trade, and the latter as a *Roman* Camp. But this he might do with great Propriety; for where should the *Romans* begin to settle a commercial City so properly, as under the Protection of the principal Division of their Army? And that *Boadicea* attacked the Head Quarters of the *Romans*, and, after a complete Victory, ruined and destroyed their commercial City, is, I think, unanimously agreed. There is one Argument more that strengthens my Conjecture, and I think a strong one, namely, that, after the Re-establishment of this commercial City, we hear no more of the *British* *Cameludunum*, the *Roman* Name *Londinium* being changed to *Augusta*. And though later Writers have adopted *Londinium*, in Preference either to *Augusta* or *Cameludunum*, yet this is by no Means without Precedent. The *Grecians*, for Ages, bore the Name of *Hellades* and their Country *Hellas*, from *Hellene*, *Deucalion's* Son, who reigned in *Phthia*; yet the *Romans* have restored their former Name, and *Hellas* and *Hellades* are now disused.



O F T H E
M O N U M E N T.

* * * * * **T** * * * * * HIS great fluted Column, in the Year
 1671, was begun by Sir *Christopher Wren*,
 by Order of Parliament, in Commemo-
 ration of the great Conflagration so often
 mentioned; and was finished by the same Architect
 in 1677. In forming this stately Column, which is
 of the *Doric* Order, Sir *Christopher* has taken the
 Liberty to exceed the received Proportion of the
 Order one Module or Semidiameter. In the Place
 of the Brass Urn on the Top, says the Author of
Parentalia *, a Coloss Statue of King *Charles the*
Second was originally intended, after the Manner
 of the *Roman* Pillars, which terminated with the
 Statues of their *Cæsars*; or else a Figure erect of a
 Woman crowned with Turrets, holding a Sword
 or a Cap of Maintenance, with other Ensigns of the
 City's Grandeur and Re-erection. The Altitude,
 from the Pavement, is 202 Feet; the Diameter of
 the Shaft, or Body of the Column, is 15 Feet; the
 Ground Plinth, or lowest Part of the Pedestal, is 28
 Feet Square; and the Pedestal in Height is 40 Feet.

* This ingenious Gentleman was Son to Sir CHRISTO-
 PHER WREN, but the Work in his Life-Time remained un-
 published, and has lately been published by his Grandson,
 STEPHEN WREN, Esq. and contains many valuable Par-
 ticulars, without the Help of which our HISTORY of St.
 PAUL's must have been very incomplete.

Over

44 *Of the* MONUMENT.

Over the Capital is an Iron Balcony, encompassing a Cone 32 Feet high, supporting a blazing Urn of gilt Brass. Within is a large Stair-Case of black Marble, containing 345 Steps, each 10 Inches and a Half broad, and six Inches thick. The West Side of the Pedestal is adorned with a curious Emblem in Alt Relief, denoting the Destruction and Restoration of the City. The First female Figure represents the City of *London*, sitting in Ruins in a languishing Posture, with her head dejected, Hair dishevelled, and her Hand carelessly lying on her Sword. Behind is *Time*, gradually raising her up. At her Side a Woman gently touching her with one Hand, whilst a winged Scepter in the other directs her to regard the Goddesses in the Clouds, one with a Cornupia denoting Plenty, the other with a Palm Branch, the Emblem of Peace. At her Feet a Bee-Hive, shewing that by Industry and Application the greatest Misfortunes are to be overcome. Behind *Time* are Citizens, exulting at his Endeavours to restore her; and beneath, in the Midst of the Ruins, is a Dragon, who, as Supporter of the City Arms, with his Paw endeavours to preserve the same. Opposite the City, on an elevated Pavement, stands the King in a *Roman Habit*, with a Laurel on his Head and a Truncheon in his Hand; and, approaching her, commands three of his Attendants to descend to her Relief: The *first* represents the *Sciences*, with a winged Head and Circle of naked Boys dancing thereon, and holding *Nature* in her Hand, with her numerous Breasts ready to give Assistance to all; the *second* is *Architecture*, with a Plan in one Hand, and a Square and Pair of Compasses in the other; and the *third* is *Liberty*, waving a Hat in the Air, shewing her Joy at the pleasing Prospect of the City's speedy Recovery. Behind the King stands his

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his Brother, the Duke of York, with a Garland in one Hand to crown the rising City, and a Sword in the other for her Defence. And the two Figures behind are *Justice* and *Fortitude*; the former with a Coronet, and the latter with a reined Lion. And under the royal Pavement, in a Vault, lieth *Envy* gnawing a Heart, and incessantly emitting pestiferous Fumes from her envenomed Mouth. And, in the upper Part of the Plinth, the Reconstruction of the City is represented by Builders and Labourers at Work upon Houses.

On the North Side of the Pedestal is a *Latin* Inscription thus rendered: "In the Year of *Christ* 1666, *Sept.* 2, Eastward from hence, at the Distance of 202 Feet, the Height of this Column, a terrible Fire broke out about Midnight; which, driven on by a high Wind, not only wasted the adjacent Parts, but also very remote Places, with incredible Crackling and Fury. It consumed 89 Churches, the City Gates, *Guildhall*, many public Structures, Hospitals, Schools, Libraries, a vast Number of stately Edifices, 13000 Dwelling-Houses, and 400 Streets. Of the 26 Wards it utterly destroyed fifteen, and left eight others shattered and half burned. The Ruins of the City were 436 Acres from the *Tower*, by the *Thames* Side, to the *Temple Church*; and from the North East, along the Wall, to *Holborn-Bridge*. To the Estates and Fortunes of the Citizens it was merciless, but to their Lives very favourable, that it might in all Things resemble the last Conflagration of the World. The Destruction was sudden; for in a small Space of Time the City was seen most flourishing, and reduced to nothing. Three Days after, when this fatal Fire had baffled all human Counsels and Endeavours, in the Opinion of all,

it stopped, as it, were by a Command from Heaven, and was on every Side extinguished."

The Inscription on the South Side is translated thus: "*Charles the Second, Son of Charles the Martyr, King of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, a most gracious Prince, commiserating the deplorable State of Things, whilst the Ruins were yet smoaking, provided for the Comfort of his Citizens, and Ornaments of his City; remitted their Taxes, and referred the Petition of the Magistrates and Inhabitants to Parliament; who immediately passed an Act, that public Works should be restored to greater Beauty with public Money, to be raised by an Impost on Coals; that Churches, and the Cathedral of St. Paul's shall be rebuilt from their Foundations with all Magnificence; that Bridges, Gates, and Prisons should be new made, the Sewers cleansed, the Streets made streight and regular; such as were steep levelled, and those too narrow to be made wider. Markets and Shambles removed to separate Places. They also enacted, that every House should be built with Party Walls, and all in Front raised of equal Heighth, and those Walls all of square Stone or Brick; and that no Man should delay building beyond the Space of seven Years. Moreover, Care was taken by Law, to prevent all Suits about their Bounds. Also anniversary Prayers were enjoined; and to perpetuate the Memory hereof to Posterity, they caused this Column to be erected. The Work was carried on with Diligence, and London is restored; but whether with greater Speed or Beauty, may be made a Question. At three Years Time the World saw that finished, which was supposed to be the Business of an Age.*"

The

The Inscription, on the East Side, is in *English* thus:

This Pillar was begun,

Sir *Richard Ford*, Knt. being Lord Mayor of
London, in the Year 1671.

Carried on in the Mayoralties of

Sir *George Waterman*, Knt.

Sir *Robert Hanson*, Knt.

Sir *William Hooker*, Knt.

Sir *Robert Viner*, Knt.

Sir *Joseph Sheldon*, Knt.

} Lord Mayors.

And finished,

Sir *Thomas Davies* being Lord Mayor, in the Year
1677.

Round the Monument was this Inscription:

“ This Pillar was set up in perpetual Remem-
“ brance of the most dreadful Burning of this
“ Protestant City, begun and carried on by the
“ Treachery and Malice of the popish Faction in
“ the Beginning of *September*, in the Year of our
“ Lord 1666, in order to the carrying on their
“ horrid Plot for extirpating the Protestant Reli-
“ gion and *Old English* Liberty, and introducing
“ Popery and Slavery.”

This Inscription, upon the Duke of *York*'s Ac-
cession to the Crown was immediately erased;
but soon after the Revolution restored again.

“ This Monument,” says the *Author of the Review*
of our public Buildings, “ is undoubtedly the no-
“ blest modern Column in the World; nay, in
“ some Respects, it may justly vie with those cele-
“ brated ones of Antiquity which are consecrated

“ to the Names of *Trajan*, and *Antonine* *. No-
 “ thing can be more bold and surprizing, nothing
 “ more beautiful and harmonious. The Bas Re-
 “ lief at the Base †, allowing for some small De-
 “ fects, is finely imagined, and executed as well;
 “ and nothing material can be cavilled with but
 “ the Inscriptions round it.” These Sir *Christopher*
Wren had prepared in a more Masculine Style, as
 appears by the *Parentalia* so often quoted, but
 was over-ruled.

* The greatest of the ROMAN Columns, which was that
 of ANTONINE, was but 172 Feet and a half in Height, and
 12 Feet three Inches Diameter; TRAJAN'S but 147 in
 Height.

† This was the Handy-work of that great ENGLISH
 Statuary Mr. CIBBER, Father to COLLEY CIBBER, Esq.
 Poet Laureat.





O F T H E
C I T Y - W A L L,
A N D
G A T E S.

WE have already taken Notice, that the ancient Boundaries of *London* were very narrow, and that no Wall was at first thought necessary for it's Defence; being bounded on the South by the River *Thames*; on the West by the River *Fleet*; on the North by a deep Morass; and on the East by a River called the *River of Wells*, now *Wall-brook*. No Wonder, therefore, that a Spot thus fortified by Nature should invite the *Romans* to make Choice of it for the principal Seat of their Government; but notwithstanding these Advantages, being surprized by the *ancient Britons*, under the Command of *Boadicea*, and having their Intrenchments forced, their Infant Colony burned, and the greatest Part of it's Inhabitants massacred; when they had again subdued their Enemies, they then re-assumed their former Residence, and, charmed with the happy Situation of it, determined to render it secure from any future Ravages of the Natives, by enlarging it's Limits, surrounding it with an impregnable Wall, fortified with Towers, and making it accessible only by strong Gates. At what Time this happened does not

C 3

certainly

50 Of LONDON-WALL and it's GATES.

certainly appear, nor indeed how far the first Wall extended, particularly towards the North; but Authors unanimously agree, that anciently there were but four Gates by which the *Roman City* could be entered; three of these were very lately remaining; but *Dourgate* being utterly demolished, the similar Name of *Dowgate* is all that is left to determine it's Situation. In Process of Time, as the Trade of the City encreased, Gates were multiplied; and there were, within these few Years, no less than seven, besides the Postern on *Tower-Hill*, and the *Bridge Gate*, both of which were of great Antiquity.

The *Postern Gate* was erected soon after the Conquest; but *Richard I.* resolving to enlarge the *Tower of London* with an additional Fortification, that Part of the *City Wall* extending from thence to this Gate, in Length about 100 Yards, was pulled down, with the Gate itself, which was never afterwards rebuilt. This happened about the Year 1440.

Aldgate, which was situated 1462 Feet to the Northward of this Postern, is universally allowed to have been one of the four original Gates of the *Roman City*; but, being very ruinous, in 1606 it was pulled down and rebuilt. In digging under the Ruins after it's being first pulled down, some *Roman Coins* were discovered, two of which *Mr. Bond*, the Surveyor, caused to be copied on Stone, and placed on the East Front of a new Gate, on each Side the Passage. In 1734, a Water Conduit at the South East Angle of it was pulled down, and two Houses built in it's Room; and at the same Time a Postern was made in the South End of the Gate, for the Convenience of Foot Passengers.—The Apartments over this Gate were for the Use of some of the Lord Mayor's Officers; but the Whole has very lately been taken down, by Order of the Lord Mayor and Common-Council.

Bishopsgate,

Of LONDON-WALL and it's GATES. 51

Bishopsgate, which was situate 1440 Feet to the North West of the former, is by some supposed to have been built by *Erkenwald*, Bishop of *London*, in the 7th Century; and by others by *William the Norman*, another Bishop of *London*, 400 Years later; hence it took it's Name of *Bishopsgate*. In 1551, being much decayed, the *Anseatic Company* began to prepare Materials for rebuilding it; but that Company being soon after dissolved, the Care of it reverted to the City, who propped it up till the Year 1731, when it was forced to be taken down and re-erected; but is now quite destroyed.

Moorgate was 1664 Feet to the Westward of *Bishopsgate*, and was erected in 1415, after *Francis*, the then Lord Mayor had drained all that Tract of Ground to the North of the City now called *Moorfields*. This was one of the most magnificent Gates of the City, and had two Posterns for the Conveniency of Foot Passengers, and fine Apartments for the Use of the Lord Mayor's Officers; but those, and the Gate likewise, were lately pulled down.

Cripplegate was 1032 Feet from *Moorgate*, and is supposed by *Maitland* to be one of the four Original Roman Gates, in Preference to *Aldersgate*; which *Stow*, and almost all the other City Antiquarians, have adopted. The Name of *Cripplegate* seems of modern Date, and given it from the Number of Cripples that resorted thither to beg. I find nothing certain concerning it's first Erection; and therefore shall just take Notice, that it was repaired at the City's Charge in 1663, when a new Postern was added to it; but that and the Gate are now entirely demolished. The Apartments over it did belong to the Water-Bailiff.

Aldersgate was 1265 Feet to the South West of *Cripplegate*, and, by Reason of it's Name, is by *Stow* supposed to be of greater Antiquity; and indeed

52 Of LONDON-WALL and it's GATES:

indeed I cannot help being of his Opinion; for *Alder* or *Older-Gate* is certainly of *Saxon* Etymology, and was no Doubt given it as a Mark of Seniority. This Gate was built in 1617, and after the Fire of *London* repaired and beautified in 1670; but is now quite pulled down. The Apartments formerly belonged to the Common Cryer.

Newgate is 1037 Feet South West of where *Aldersgate* stood, and is by *Maitland* thought to be the fourth Original Gate, in Opposition to most other Antiquarians, who take *Ludgate* to have been the original one. The Reason on which he grounds his Opinion, is, because in digging a Foundation for the present *Holborn-bridge*, the Traces of a *Roman* Military Way, which he calls the *Wattling-Street*, were discovered, pointing directly to *Newgate*; but the Name of *Newgate* I take to be a fuller Proof of it's Juniority, than any that can be founded on such uncertain Conjectures. For supposing, what he seems to lay great Strefs upon, that this Gate was only repaired and not originally built in the Time of *Henry III.* and that, instead of *Newgate*, it was anciently called *Chamberlayn-gate*; yet I can hardly believe, that our Ancestors, upon that Reparation, would have dishonoured one of the oldest Gates of the City with a *New* Name. We have no Authority for any such Supposition. Besides, were it any Part of the Business of this Book to enter into the Dispute, I think Proofs enough might be drawn from *Maitland's* own History, to establish the Point in favour of *Ludgate*. The Date of the present Gate, however, is of no greater Antiquity than the Fire of *London*, when it was rebuilt with greater Strength and Magnificence than any other Gate in *London*, being appropriated to the Purposes of Imprisonment, as well of Traitors as of Felons and Debtors. How much

Of LONDON-WALL and it's GATES. 53

much longer it will continue standing I cannot inform my Readers; there having been many Schemes formed, and Plans drawn, to have a new Goal-built for the above Purposes in a more convenient Place.

Ludgate which is the first of the City Gates that was pulled down, to make the City have a grander Appearance, was but 797 Feet from *Newgate*, and took it's Name (as by the Statues of King *Lud* and his two Sons, which were erected upon it, should seem) from a *British* Prince of that Name, it's Founder. *Leland* has refuted this fabulous Origin, and with more Reason derives it's Name from the Saxon Word *Flud*, *Vloet*, *Floete*, or *Fleet*, which implies a small Water-Course, as the River *Fleet* undoubtedly was at that Time, and but a little Distance from it. And here I cannot help observing something characteristic in the Name of the four original Gates, *Lud* or *Flud-gate*, *Dour-gate*, *Ald-gate*, and *Alder-gate*, are all unquestionably of Saxon Derivation; whereas the other Gates, *Newgate*, *Cripplegate*, *Moorgate*, and *Bishopsgate*, are visibly more modern. I own from this Observation, which I am inclined to think not altogether visionary, a Doubt arises with me whether the Antiquity of any of the Gates, or of the Walls themselves, as we have now traced them, rises higher than the Saxon Times. That Part of the Wall which ran from *Bishopsgate* to *Cripplegate*, was confessedly a new Work, comparatively speaking; because the great Moor itself, on which it stood, was drained but in 1414, as has been sufficiently proved. And *Woodward*, in his *Present State of London*, has shewn, that the Foundation only of that Part of the City Wall, from *Bishopsgate* onwards to the South East, lately beat down to make Way for new Buildings, was *Roman*; "being alter-

" nately

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“ nately compiled, *as he observed*, of Layers of
 “ broad flat Bricks, exactly of the *Roman Stand-*
 “ *ard*, and of Rag-stone, cemented with a Mor-
 “ tar so very firm and hard that the Stone itself as
 “ easily gave Way as that.” Whereas the Su-
 perstructure, though carried up of the same Thick-
 ness, was neither of such elegant Workmanship,
 nor such good Mortar; nor was there one of the
 broad thin *Roman* Bricks to be found in any Part
 of the upper Wall.

The Foundation here spoken of was about
 nine Feet under Ground: Hence it appears that
 the *Roman* Works, by whatever Means it has hap-
 pened, was sunk so far below the present Surface of
 the City, as no-where to be discovered but by dig-
 ging, and this being only partial, in different Pla-
 ces, and at different Times, no certain Conclusions
 can be drawn from the Parts thus accidentally
 brought to Light, except more Care and Pains, as
 well as Charge, were bestowed in examining
 their Course, and determining their Extent. In-
 deed, if some public spirited Magistrate should
 arise, who being himself excited by a laudable De-
 sire of promoting Discoveries of this Kind, would
 give Encouragement to a certain Number of inge-
 nious Workmen to employ their Time in such
 Pursuits, I make no Question, but by a careful
 Comparifon of the Discoveries that have already
 been made, with those that might soon be made,
 the Limits of the *Roman* City would still be made
 appear, and the Point decided how much our *Saxon*
 Ancestors owed to their Predecessors the *Romans*,
 and what the *Norman* Invaders owed to both; or,
 in other Words, where each left off, and the other
 began; a Matter, it must be owned, rather of
 Curiosity than Use.

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From where *Ludgate* stood, there is little of the Old Wall remaining; but the Measurements of the ancient Line are thus preserved: From *Ludgate* to *Fleet-Ditch*, westward, is 450 Feet; from thence to the River *Thames*, 780 Feet; and from *Fleet-Ditch*, eastward, to the *White Tower*, to which the City Wall was anciently joined, 5950 Feet; so that the whole Circumference of the City within the Walls is just three Miles and 165 Feet. That the City was formerly walled on the South Side along the River *Thames*, appears from *Fitz Stephens*, a Writer in the Time of *Henry II.* who says, that the Wall on the North was in the Form of a Bow, and on the South like the String of it; and further, that the Ebbing and Flowing of the *Thames* had then wholly washed it down on that Side.

The first building of the City Wall is fixed by *Maitland* to the Æra of *Theodosius* in 368; by others to that of *Hellena*, Mother of *Constantine*, about 60 Years earlier; but by *Stow*, to the Year 434; about which Time the City took the Name of *Augusta*. In 839 the old Wall was demolished; in 886 restored; in 994 and 1016 it was much injured by the *Danes*; but in 1215 repaired by the Barons, who, as Authors say, plundered and demolished the Houses of the *Jews*, and with the Stones repaired the City Walls; and indeed a late Discovery of a Stone, with an old *Hebrew* Inscription upon it, found in the old Wall on the Backside of *Bethlem*, seems to confirm this Fact.

Among the Gates formerly belonging to the City, the *Bridge-Gate* has been accounted one; but as it never could belong to the Wall's I see no Reason for extending it's Antiquity, as some have done, beyond the Æra of the Bridge. It is as idle to suppose the Bridge built for the Convenience of

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the Gate, and not the Gate for the Defence of the Bridge; as to suppose *Westminster* built for the Sake of the Abbey, and not the Abbey for the Use of *Westminster*. Such Conjectures as these deserve no serious Refutation. *London-Bridge* was erected about the Beginning of the 13th Century, and to that Time we must refer the first Erection of *Bridge-Gate*; but in 1726, the old Structure being much damaged by Fire, it was soon after repaired, and in 1728 finished as it now appears.—This short Account of the Antiquities of *London* may hereafter be resumed, if the imperfect Specimen here offered has the good Fortune to be favourably received.

F I N I S.